

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

1. Amendments to Claims

Claim 10 has been amended to recite "segment confidence measure verification of all cutting points of N test speech unit segments to determine if the cutting points of the test speech unit segments are correct." This limitation is also recited in original claim 1 (now allowed) and therefore clearly does not constitute "new matter."

New independent claim 19 is added to include the limitations of claims 10 and 17, indicated as allowable in item 18 on page 10 of the Official Action. Claim 17 has been canceled.

New independent claim 20 is added to include the limitations of claims 10 and 18, indicated as allowable in item 19 on page 11 of the Official Action. Claim 18 has been canceled.

The remaining claims are unchanged.

2. Rejections of Claims 10-12, and 14-16 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

These rejections have been addressed by amending independent claim 10 to include the limitation of "segment confidence measure verification of all cutting points of N test speech unit segments to determine if the cutting points of the test speech unit segments are correct," as is also recited in allowed claim 1. The Applicant respectfully

submits that the Chou article and the Modi patent, whether considered individually or in any reasonable combination, fail to disclose or suggest an automatic speech segmentation and verification method and system that combines the segment confidence measure verification and phonetic-confidence-measure verification, as recited in amended claim 10.

Having thus overcome the sole rejection made in the Official Action, and in view of the indicated allowability of each of the remaining claims, withdrawal of the rejection and expedited passage of the application to issue is respectively requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the application are now believed to be in order, and such action is hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue that the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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